

We claim:

1. A system for describing and extracting application information, comprising: (A) a first computer system, said first computer system further comprising: (1) an input device; (2) a display device; and (3) a processing unit, said processing unit further comprising: (a) a processor; (b) memory; and (c) a long-term storage device; (B) a second computer system, said second computer system further comprising: (1) an input device; (2) a display device; and (3) a processing unit, said processing unit further comprising: (a) a processor; (b) memory; and (c) a long-term storage device; (C) an application program resident on said long term storage device of said processing unit of said first computer system; and (D) a means for migrating said application program from said first computer to said second computer, wherein said means for migrating further comprises: (1) an application interface file, in an INI format, wherein said application interface file further comprises a tag that identifies a feature of said application program; and (2) a communication channel between said first computer system and said second computer system.

2. A method for describing and extracting application information, comprising: (A) deploying a target computer; (B) defining a set of defaults; (C) running scan and build on a source computer; (D) editing a STAMP file if necessary; (E) setting options if necessary; (F) running STAMP on said target computer; (G) viewing STAMP contents and excluding any files or settings from said target computer if necessary; and (H) installing files and settings on said target computer.

3. A method for extracting and migrating application information, comprising: (A) loading a Personality Package; (B) executing said Personality Package; (C) getting a file; (D) copying said file; (E) getting a registry; (F) copying said registry; (G) getting application version specifics; and (H) updating links.

Abstract of Disclosure

[0097] A method and system for describing, extracting and migrating application information from a first personal computer to one or more other computers is described. This method and system provides a means for selecting and translating the information useful in transferring application programs, settings and files while maintaining the preferred preferences and directories of the users. Using a standard INI file format, this method makes use of Application Information Files (AIFs) that contain a collection of tags. The tags provide identification of multiple versions of the application and conversion information for settings, registry information and files. This invention provides the method of creating self-extracting auto-migrate packages, which permit